

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

EMERGENCY WITHDRAWAL FOR IRRIGATION, WILLOW CREEK LAKE
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON

The proposed action is to release up to 3,343 acre-feet of stored water from Willow Creek Lake for irrigation use during the 2003 summer growing season. This is in response to emergency request by downstream irrigators following a declaration of drought emergency by Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber in September 2001, which is still in effect. The reservoir would be drawn down below its normal summer pool level at a rate exceeding the usual 3 cubic feet per second, resulting in a probable pool level of 2047.7 feet elevation by September 30, and reducing the water surface area to 97 acres. I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment and determined that the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date: _____

RICHARD W. HOBERNICHT
Colonel, EN
Commanding